

OF CHRISTMAS PAST
By Dick Blide, December 2011

It's the season of joy and celebration so what better to write about than Christmas past. . . great memories.

I have to guess that it was about 1937 and we were still in the midst of the Depression. Dad was employed but it was tough leading with 4 kids. Grandpa had told us that Mom would be no longer at home because there wasn't enough money. And at that

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time Dad had big bills at the two local food stores. And those daddies could chat and putchaies and pay off the bill at the interval. I was always as well as the mother and two sisters. One thing that would make me feel better then was to go behind a curtain in the living room and stoop down over the hot air vent in the floor. I guess the heat generated a good feeling. I believe that I may have had a taste of two at that time also.

I remember it was mid morning, Christmas Day when Mom was a hunch at the door. I was out there, on opening the door, if at all, two older cousins, stood there holding a full gift. 9